

**What is claimed is:**

1           1. A load port transfer device, for delivering a  
2 wafer carrier along an overhead conveying system,  
3 including:

4           a load port;

5           a path, having vertical and horizontal components,  
6           the vertical component having a top portion  
7           connected to the horizontal component beside  
8           the overhead conveying system and a bottom  
9           portion extending from the load port; and

10          a robot, movably disposed on the path to transfer  
11          the wafer carrier between the load port and the  
12          overhead conveying system.

1           2. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 1, wherein the path is L-shaped.

1           3. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 1, wherein the horizontal component is located  
3 above the overhead conveying system.

1           4. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 1, wherein the robot further includes a moving  
3 mechanism, disposed within the path and a holding  
4 mechanism, disposed on the moving mechanism to maintain  
5 the wafer carrier in a horizontal position.

1           5. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the holding mechanism having first and  
3 second ends, wherein the first end is removably connected

4 to the wafer carrier and the second end is movably  
5 connected to the moving mechanism.

1 6. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 5, wherein the first end is gripper-shaped to grasp  
3 the wafer carrier.

1 7. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a roller.

1 8. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a gear wheel.

1 9. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a chain.

1 10. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a timing belt.

1 11. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a curtain slat.

1 12. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 4, wherein the moving mechanism is a wire.

1 13. A load port transfer device, for delivering a  
2 wafer carrier to a conveying system, comprising:

3 a load port;

4 a path, having vertical and horizontal components,

5 the vertical component having a top portion

6 beside the conveying system and a bottom

7 portion, extending from the load port; and

8 a robot, including a moving mechanism movably

9 disposed on the path to transfer the wafer

10 carrier between the load port and the conveying  
11 system, and a holding mechanism having a first  
12 end holding the wafer carrier and a second end  
13 disposed on the moving mechanism.

1 14. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the horizontal and the vertical  
3 components form an L-shape.

1 15. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the first end is gripper-shaped to  
3 grasp the wafer carrier.

1 16. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a roller.

1 17. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a gear wheel.

1 18. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a chain.

1 19. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a timing belt.

1 20. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a curtain slat.

1 21. The load port transfer device as claimed in  
2 claim 13, wherein the moving mechanism is a wire.

1        22. An intra-bay delivery system comprising:  
2        a wafer carrier;  
3        a load port supporting the wafer carrier;  
4        a conveyor, disposed above the load port;  
5        a rail having vertical and horizontal components,  
6                wherein the vertical component extends from the  
7                load port and the horizontal component is  
8                located above the conveyor; and  
9        a robot including a roller movably disposed on the  
10               rail to transfer the wafer carrier between the  
11               load port and the conveyor and a holding  
12               portion having a first end holding the wafer  
13               carrier and a second end disposed on the  
14               roller, wherein the first end holding the wafer  
15               carrier is a flange.